



Heritage Statement

Date: October 2026

Project: Lower Wickens Farm
Upperthong

Project No.: 3183

ONE17

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This document is intended to be read as supplementary support information to the planning application forms and accompanying drawings. Any illustrations within this and other supporting documents are intended for illustrative purposes and do not take precedence over the formal application drawings.

1.00 Summary

- 1.01 The scheme proposes the addition of solar panels and an air source heat pump to the property.
- 1.02 The buildings form a discrete group within a high value rural agricultural landscape on the edge of the village of Upperthong between Holmfirth and Meltham. The setting is retained by the proposal.
- 1.03 The openness of the green belt is not harmed by the proposal nor does it challenge any of the other functions of green belt land.

2.00 Policy

- 2.01 The property, which comprises a Grade II listed farmhouse plus cottages, barn and outbuildings, sits within green belt on the east side of Wickens Lane on the north-western edge of the village of Upperthong between the towns of Holmfirth and Meltham. See Fig.1. It is within an Area of High Landscape Value. Please note, the alternative spelling of Wickens as Wickins is found on various documents and for the purposes of this statement should be regarded as interchangeable.

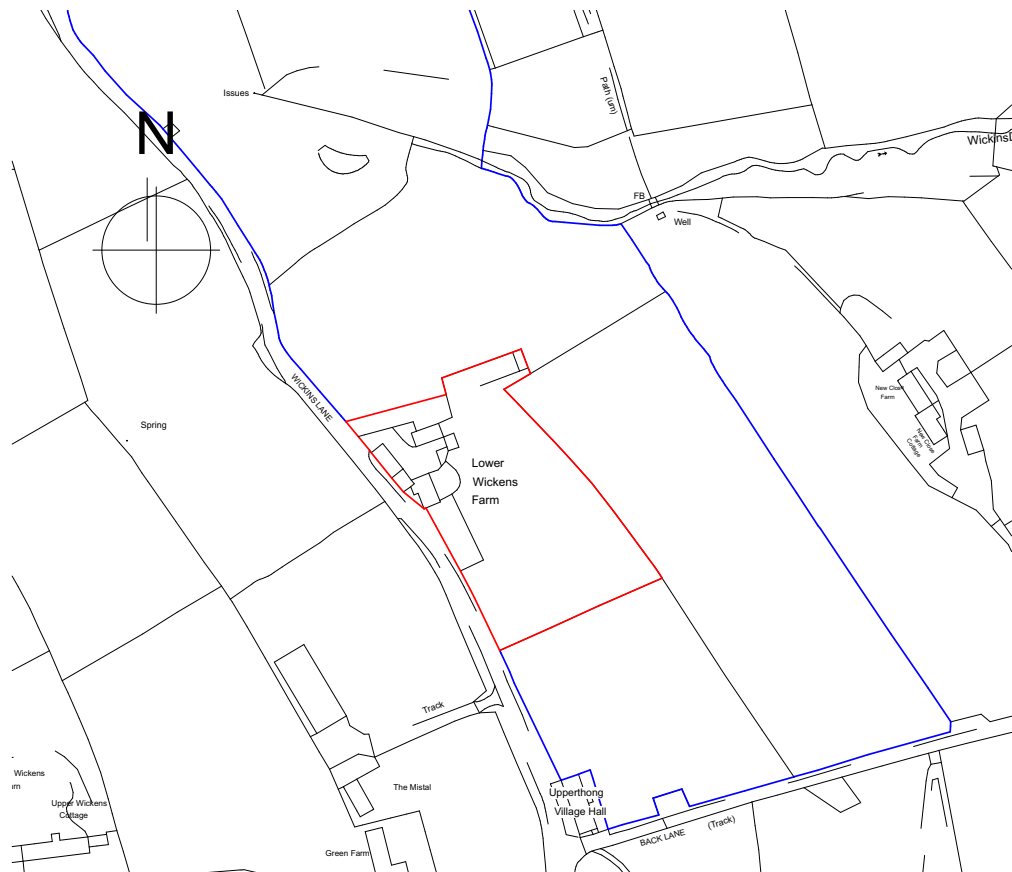


Figure 1: Location Plan

- 2.03 The farmhouse and barn group is built tight to the highway boundary and turns its back on the road to face across to the former cottages. The haphazard disposition of the buildings around the central yard together with the stone linking/flanking walls is part of the essential character to be maintained.
- 2.03 The intention is to undertake minimal careful interventions to make sustainable alterations to the property to allow for better use of the accommodation offered by the building group whilst retaining the character and the historic fabric.

3.00 Heritage Statement

- 3.01 Lower Wickens Farmhouse is a good example of a late C18 – early C19 West Yorkshire farmhouse of two storeys in hammer dressed local stone under a stone slate roof. It has gable copings, mullioned windows in groups and a near central principal door under a deep stone lintel, amongst other characteristic features. It is generally well preserved and contributes to the local environment.
- 3.02 The setting of the farmhouse as part of a group of buildings around a central yard adds to the value of the heritage asset. The general quality of the other buildings in the group, whilst not up to that of the farmhouse, is good and adds value.
- 3.03 Alterations and interventions are minor and aimed at:
- Adding Infinity RT solar panels to the outbuilding
 - Adding an AERONA - HPR290155 air source heat pump to the house – specification sheet can be found in Appendix 1.
- 3.04 The character and form of the building group is maintained. The air source heat pump will be located behind the garden wall and will therefore be unable to be viewed from the public highway.
- 3.05 The setting of the group within the landscape is retained. We commend the scheme as ensuring that the value of the historic fabric is retained and the heritage asset preserved for future generations whilst performing a useful function in accordance with the spirit and guidance of the National Planning Policy Framework.

